LOUISIANA Conservationist

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

MAY
JUNE
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Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my country—its soil and minerals, its forests, waters and wildlife

Published Bi-Monthly in the interest of conservation of Louisiana's natural resources by the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130.

Thousands of miles of waterways such as shown on the front cover offer Louisiana boaters and fishermen unlimited opportunity to enjoy these inland sports which get into high gear in May and June, continuing all summer. This lacework of waterways—rivers, bayous and lakes is virtually unequalled in the United States. Added to the abundance of water, the scenic beauty is unsurpassed. The banks are bounded by graceful willows or stately cypress trees and hardwoods trailing heavy beards of picturesque Spanish moss. May and June beckon the boaters and the fishermen. (Cover photo by Robert N. Dennie)

LOUISIANA Conservationist
LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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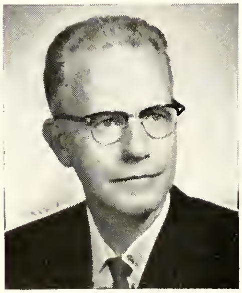
EDITORIAL

FOOD CHAINS are familiar to everyone in a vague sort of way for man himself occupies a position at the top of many of them. For example, man eats the frog that eats the crawfish that eats the algae or he may eliminate one link by eating the crawfish that eats the algae.

Every South Louisianian knows that 'ecrevisse are a very important food for man. However, few realize the importance of crawfish in the "food chain" of our wild birds and mammals. In our extensive swamps the crawfish is the "preferred" food of bass, catfish, mink, coon, otter, egrets, herons, ibises, turtles and alligators. Since crawfish are the "key" to high populations of these species, without crawfish we would have fewer fish, frogs, turtles and mink. Therefore, the crawfish contributes indirectly to our economy by providing these species with their greatest single source of food.

Little thought has been given to the recreational value of crawfish. During the first warm days of spring thousands of families, including "les enfants" pour out into the country in pursuit of crawfish. They derive untold hours of pleasure and satisfaction from being outdoors in addition to an almost sure tub full of crawfish. Since these people spend considerable money for travel and equipment, they make a substantial contribution to our economy. We provide managed areas for hunting, managed lakes for fishing so why not managed areas for this wonderful family sport — crawfishing?

The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission pioneered research and development of the crawfish industry. The late Percy Viosca, biologist with the Commission, conducted a wide variety of experiments on the production of crawfish. Many of his recommendations are followed by our crawfish farmers today. The Commission now employs a crawfish biologist, Cecil LeCaze, who is located at the district office in Opelousas. Mr. LeCaze is probably the most knowledgeable person on crawfish in Louisiana. The services of this expert are available free to all crawfish producers.


LESLIE L. GLASGOW
Director

Overflow lands in south Louisiana provide crawfish with ideal habitat. Man's interference with these low lying areas through drainage and clearing has drastically reduced these natural areas. Alteration of the flooding pattern in the Atchafalaya Basin has reduced the value of this great area for crawfish. Production from it will no longer be reliable. In the future we will have to depend on commercial growers for our supply.

There are over two million acres in Louisiana suitable for growing crawfish, only a fraction of this acreage is now in production. An expansion in marketing and processing are urgently needed. We must learn more about factors that control populations in natural waters. We need more information about the influence of fertilizing waters, insecticides, feeding crawfish, baits, better harvest methods, population dynamics and other management problems.

The Commission is vitally interested in the problems of growers, harvesters, and processors and will do all in its power to assist in making the crawfish industry one of Louisiana's great industries. It is our hope and prediction that it will become a multi-million dollar business. ✠

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THIS IS YOUR LAND

Dewey W. Wills

IT HAS BEEN SAID, "The pride of ownership is great." Recently, the people of Louisiana became owners of some important real estate property, and the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission can point with pride to their fourth purchase of a tract of land to be used for wildlife management purposes.

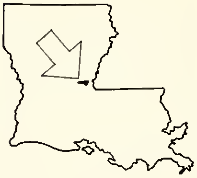
On December 1, 1966, the Commission acquired 12,600 acres of land bordering Red River in the southern part of Concordia Parish. This tract, known as the Red River Wildlife Management Area was purchased with funds from the Russell Sage Foundation Account for a sum of $800,000.00. An additional 800 acres were leased, without fee, from the Concordia Parish School Board to be included in the wildlife management program.

In an area where the woodland acreage is decreasing at a fantastic rate, perpetuating wildlife for future generations poses a tremendous problem for the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. The basic problem becomes that of trying to soften the impact that man is making on our natural resources. The purchase of areas such as the Red River Wildlife Management Area to be set aside for game management purposes will compensate in part for the great losses in bottomland hardwood type habitat.

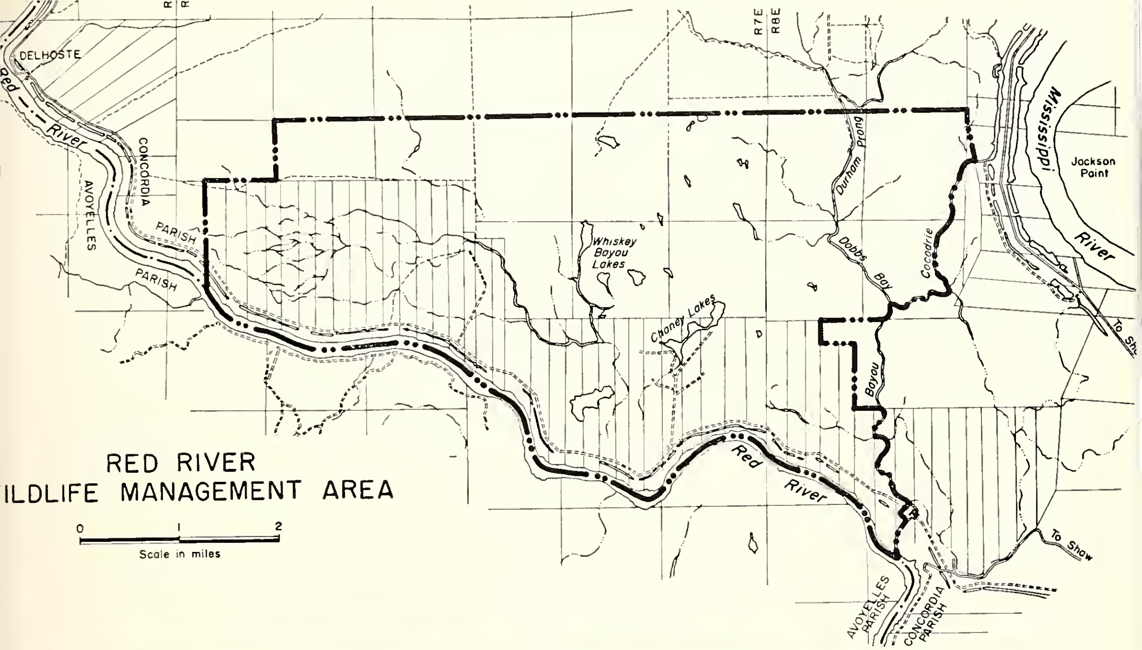
The Red River Wildlife Management Area is located approximately five miles west of Shaw, Louisiana, and borders the Red River. The terrain is low, flat, and poorly drained. The timber type is mixed bottomland hardwood, with the primary tree species being overcup oak, bitter pecan, hackberry, elm, honey locust, ash, willow, and some cypress. The understory is composed of swamp privet, deciduous holly, button willow, trumpet vine, pepper vine, climbing dogbane, poison ivy, and grape.

Entrance marker being erected on the newly acquired Red River Wildlife Management Area.

The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission plans to develop an ideal environment for wildlife and provide for maximum public use as an outdoor recreation area. Lack of ownership precludes or curtails development of our leased lands to their fullest potential; however, this will not be a limiting factor with the Commission-owned Red River Wildlife Management



Many miles of barrow pits located on the Red River Wildlife Management Area, with little development, will furnish excellent fishing.



Sports and commercial fishermen will find excellent fishing in such waters as the Whiskey Bayou Lakes, Chaney Lakes, Bayou Cocodrie, Dobbs Bay and the barrow pits along the levees.

The Wild Life and Fisheries Commission began releasing live trapped wild turkeys immediately following purchase of the 12,600 acre tract bordering the Mississippi and Red Rivers.

Area. It will be managed and developed primarily for deer, squirrels, rabbits, turkeys and waterfowl. The fisheries resources will also be developed on the area.

With the many shallow lakes and bayous found on the area, excellent opportunity exists for waterfowl development. Clearing of the slough bottoms, plantings, and the erection of water control structures are programs which will be initiated on the area in the future.

This area supports a good deer herd at present and with strict law enforcement and habitat improvement deer hunting will improve. The Commission plans to fence the area, which will eliminate competition between deer and livestock. With the exclusion of livestock the area will revegetate with both herbaceous and woody growth, resulting in an improved deer habitat. The deer herd will increase following this type of development and deer hunting success will be thus improved.

This area presently furnishes good squirrel hunting and it is planned to continue having a squirrel season each year on the area. Logging

Red River levees border the management area along a nine-mile stretch and will allow excellent year-round patrol work by agents of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

operations on the area have been rather heavy in the past; however, as the timber stands improve over the years squirrel habitat will improve and the squirrel population will increase.

There is a good rabbit population on the area and hunting will be permitted concurrently with the squirrel season each year. No dogs will be allowed on the area; however, some rabbits will be taken by the squirrel hunters.

Nineteen turkeys, 14 hens and 5 gobblers, were released February 22, 1967. With proper protection, the flock should develop into a huntable population within the next few years. It is hoped that through this restocking program turkey hunting will be returned to Concordia Parish.

Many miles of barrow pits adjacent to Red River are found along the southern boundary of the area. These barrow pits receive overflow from Red River each year and provide excellent sport and some commercial fishing periodically each year. Some of these barrow pits become dry each year; however, with a little development, such as the construction of small dams and control structures, fishing could be greatly improved. Also, the many woods lakes provide excellent sport and commercial fishing. Annually sport fishermen from the far corners of the state take advantage of the high quality fishing found in these lakes.

The importance of public lands which all citizens own was emphasized during the 1967 National Wildlife Week. The theme, "This is Your Land," will continue to be promoted. The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission will manage the Red River Wildlife Management Area, YOUR, LAND, wisely and develop it for maximum public utilization. ✠

The Cowfish, found in Louisiana waters, is one of the curious trunk fishes whose body is protected by an armor of fused scales forming a bony box with only the jaws, fins and tail free. It gains its name from the small horns in front of the eyes.

Calendar of Events

Hammond Knights of Columbus
Fishing Rodeo
Hammond, La., May 19, 20 and 21

* * *

Scott Lions Club Freshwater
Fishing Rodeo
Henderson, La., June 2, 3, and 4

* * *

National Association For Conservation
Information
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
June 10-June 15, 1967

* * *

NO-GI New Orleans-Grand Isle
International Underwater Spearfishing
Tournament
Grand Isle, La., June 23, 24 and 25

* * *

Cameron Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo
Cameron, La., July 1, 2, 3, and 4

* * *

Iberia Rod & Gun Club Annual Rodeo
New Iberia, La., July 1, 2, 3, and 4

* * *

Golden Meadow Annual Tarpon Rodeo
Golden Meadow, La., July 7, 8, and 9

* * *

Louisiana State Championship Skeet Shoot
Bogalusa, La., July 14-16

* * *

Louisiana Council of Underwater
Diving Clubs
Spearfishing and Line Fishing
Lake Pontchartrain, New Orleans, La.,
August 5 and 6

* * *

Jefferson Parish Jaycees Fishing Rodeo
Lake Pontchartrain, New Orleans, La.,
Aug. 25, 26 and 27

* * *

Abbeville Kiwanis Club Fishing Rodeo
Abbeville, La., Sept. 2, 3, and 4

* * *

Slidell Optimist Club Fishing Rodeo
Rigolets, La., Sept. 2, 3, and 4

WILDLIFE-O-GRAM

TEAL HUNTING SEASON IN 1967

For the third consecutive year Louisiana duck hunters will have the opportunity of participating in a nine-day experimental teal season that begins on Sept. 22 and ends on Sept. 30. About 33 thousand teal hunting permits were issued by the Commission in 1966 and it is estimated that these hunters bagged 96 thousand birds. Special teal hunting permits will be issued this year by the Commission in the same manner in which they were distributed in 1966. Dates for obtaining permits will be announced at a later date.

☆ ☆ ☆

Dan Hardesty, sports editor of the Baton Rouge State Times, was elected president of the Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association during the annual meeting of the group held in Alexandria on April 1. Jim Allen of Lake Charles was named vice-president and Steve Harmon of Baton Rouge continues to serve as secretary-treasurer.

☆ ☆ ☆

E. R. McDonald of Newellton, former chairman of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was named the outstanding conservationist of the year by the Outdoor Writers group.

☆ ☆ ☆

Wyatt Jackson of Shreveport was elected president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation during the annual convention of the association held in Alexandria March 30, 31 and April 1.

☆ ☆ ☆

Dr. Leslie L. Glasgow, director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, was named top conservationist of the year by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. The announcement was made during the annual banquet of the organization on April 1.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mike Cook, outdoor editor of the Baton Rouge State Times, received the communications award from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.

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John McMillan, a New Orleans States-Item reporter, was cited on April 1 by the Council of Sportsmen's Clubs of Greater New Orleans for "outstanding reporting that contributed to the administrative improvement of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission."

☆ ☆ ☆

If you are a tuna fisherman, the United States Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife urges you to write to Dr. Donald P. de Sylva, Institute of Marine Science, 1 Rickenbacker Causeway, Virginia Key, Miami, Florida 33149. Dr. de Sylva is conducting a study of the sport fishery for billfish and tuna in the western hemisphere.

☆ ☆ ☆

Colonel Bill Hornsey of Baton Rouge is the author of a new book on "Bass Fishing, Strategy and Tactics." Colonel Bill says the urge to write the piece came several years ago when he was teaching some Louisiana youngsters the techniques of fishing. What better reason can you have? It is published and available at Claitor's Book Store, 241 North Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Photos by
Robert Dennie →

DELTA DEER ROUND-UP

Richard K. Yancey

On March 2, 1967, the Delta National Wildlife Refuge was the scene of a record breaking deer trapping operation. In only one-half day of fast moving action 104 white tailed deer were captured and crated for shipment up river by barge to Venice.

Located at the mouth of the Mississippi River, the Delta Refuge terrain is characterized by marsh, muck and water with solid ground being found only along the pass banks. This Federal refuge serves as a fine winter haven for tens of thousands of migratory waterfowl and as a permanent residence for 500 to 700 deer. Major forms of animal life include nutria, raccoon, mink, otter, alligator and a wide variety of wading birds.

Deer hunting is prohibited on the Refuge and for this reason the herd size usually exceeds the carrying capacity of the range. Hurricane tides caused by storms such as "Betsy" in September 1965 occasionally sweep across the Delta and drown a few deer and during the mid-fifties heavy losses occurred from starvation. With the new technique over-population can be controlled on this unique area and losses from starvation avoided since almost any percentage of the total deer herd can be taken and used for transplanting purposes.

In this particular operation twenty percent of the deer on the Refuge was removed and the normal annual increment in a healthy herd is about thirty-three percent. An aerial census of the deer population was conducted by the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission in January and a permit was then granted to the Commission by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to carry out the trapping project.

Capturing deer from the floton Delta marshes requires specialized equipment because of the difficult nature of the terrain. For this reason four airboats, one helicopter (provided by Louisiana Land & Exploration Company as a public service at no charge), one small spotter airplane, one marsh motorcycle, one tugboat, a barge and two trucks were employed. Personnel included experienced Commission employees along with students from the Louisiana State University, School of Forestry and Wildlife Management and the Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Coordination of the entire operation was made possible through a unit to unit radio hook-up between ground and air.

Observation flights over the Refuge on March 1 revealed the presence of a major deer concentration in the marshes between Octave and Main Passes and it was from this section that all of the animals were captured. The operation was hampered by low water stages that prevented travel over the marsh islands by airboat. This problem, however, was solved by surrounding an island with airboats and driving deer into the water in small herds with the helicopter. Preventing the herds from escaping back to the pass banks and into the willow timber required close timing between airboats and helicopter. Coordination and spotting of swimming deer for capture by the airboats was carried out by the small Commission airplane.

After an airboat succeeded in capturing four deer it would race back to the barge where the hog-tied animals were quickly given antibiotic injections, ear-tagged, de-antlered in the case of bucks, and loaded in one of two trucks aboard the river craft. Warm weather made it necessary to rig a makeshift cooling system involving the pumping of cold river water over the deer crates. Immediately upon completion of the capturing and loading operation the barge was pushed up the Mississippi to Venice by the Commission's tugboat "Brant". At this point the trucks rolled ashore to transport the deer to the release sites.

Barring the loss of the Delta deer herd from some natural catastrophe the trapping operation will likely become a yearly event on the Refuge. Starvation type die-offs can easily be prevented there using this approach and the annual thinning of the herd will leave more food available for the remaining animals. Healthy deer herds have a much higher reproductive rate than do those in poor condition from food shortages that are coupled with parasite and disease problems. For this reason the Delta trapping program is in the best interest of the deer herd there while at the same time permitting a good game management use of the transplanted animals.

The deer captured in the past seventeen years have been taken through the use of a variety of methods including wood or net box traps, snares and tranquilizers. The airboat-aircraft combination, however, has been by far the least expensive and fastest technique employed to date.

Since 1950 over 4,000 deer have been captured by Commission personnel for transplanting purposes. This extremely successful program has resulted in increasing the deer herds in Louisiana by more than fivefold. In 1950 only 5,000 to 6,000 deer were bagged in the state while in 1965 approximately 26,000 were taken. A potential exists for tripling this harvest by affording better protection in areas of good range where nucleus deer herds have failed to build up. Also by allowing proper harvest of deer in areas of high population through the taking of deer of both sexes during regular hunting seasons prescribed by the Commission. ✠

The swimming deer were captured by airboats after being driven from the floating marshes by helicopter.

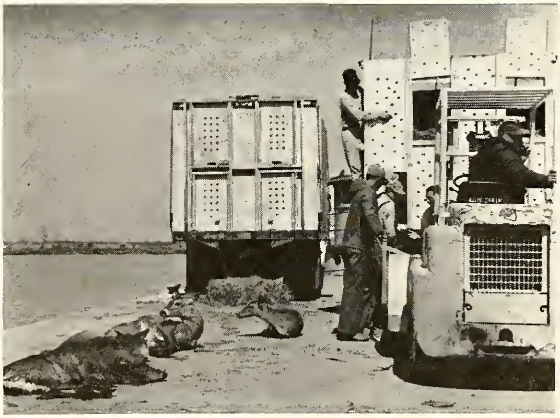
Swimming deer were captured by means of airboats and quickly transported to the Commission barge tied up in Main Pass.

er being placed ashore each deer was ear-tagged, given an ibiotic injection, and the bucks were de-antlered for safety sons in transport.

Each deer was hand-carried aboard the barge in a heads-up fashion.

An aerial view of a deer herd on the floating marshes of the Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

Deer were quickly unloaded from the airboats on the bank of Main Pass.



The 104 deer were loaded aboard two trucks on a barge befor being pushed up river to Venice.

Management of Ricefields for Waterfowl Shooting

Leslie L. Glasgow

Although Louisiana has many acres of marshland that provide excellent habitat for ducks and geese, there is not nearly enough waterfowl habitat to supply the demands of hunters for a place to hunt. The gap between supply and demand is widening and it will continue to broaden in the future. Most waterfowl areas are under lease; therefore, new areas must be developed for future shooting.

One possibility that has been exploited very little that would partially meet the demand for hunting lands, is the development of rice fields adjacent to the marsh. There are about 1,500,000 acres of ricelands in southwest Louisiana of which one-third or about 570,000 acres is planted annually to rice; the remaining two-thirds is left fallow or planted for pasture. All three types of fields can be managed for winter use by ducks or geese. Now is the time to start planning if you want to shoot waterfowl in ricefields this fall.

Waterfowl use ricelands every year, but when the marsh produces small amounts of millet, rice field use increases tremendously. Millet production was poor in the summer of '66 and, as expected, fall waterfowl surveys of the rice growing area revealed the greatest waterfowl concentrations in several years. Highest use occurs in fields near the marsh and as the distance from the marsh increases, waterfowl use generally decreases. Many ducks form a habit of feeding in rice fields and resting in the marsh, this is especially true for pintail, teal, mallards and gadwall. Geese also frequently feed in ricefields and pastures.

Geese also frequently feed in ricefields and pastures such as shown. Detailed samplings on nine rice fields by the LSU School of Forestry and Wildlife Management and the Soil Conservation Service revealed that in November harvested fields contained an average of 177 pounds of waterfowl food per acre. By February, the supply had dwindled to 38 pounds per acre—indicating the extent of food consumed principally by waterfowl.

Detailed sampling of the waterfowl food supply was conducted on nine rice farms by the LSU School of Forestry and Wildlife Management and the Soil Conservation Service. Sampling in November showed that harvested rice fields contained an average of 177 pounds of waterfowl food per acre. February samples taken in the same fields indicated that the food supply had dwindled to 38 pounds per acre, thus competition for the seeds was high. Rice made up 80 per cent of this food supply. Other important waterfowl foods were millet, red rice, brownseed paspalum, smartweed, and signalgrass.

Fallow rice fields, those left idle for one or two years, produced an average of 489 pounds of weed and grass seed per acre. Grazed fallow fields produced a limited amount of food but ungrazed fallow fields produced a great deal of food the first year and even more during the second year. Seeds of millet, brownseed paspalum, signalgrass, red rice and smartweed made

Fallow rice fields, such as the one shown above, when left idle for one or two years, produce an average of 489 pounds of weed and seed grass per acre. Grazed fallow fields produce a limited amount of food but ungrazed fallow fields produce a great deal of food during the first year and even more during the second year. Flocks of geese such as these are attracted to these fields and could provide additional opportunity under proper management.

up on average of 328 pounds per acre. Each acre of this land would meet the complete food requirement of 30 ducks for 45 days. Of course ducks would not get the entire food supply. Small rodents such as mice, flocks of small birds, insects such as ants as well as bacteria take their toll of seed. One acre would probably support 15 ducks for this period and with supplemental feeding in the marsh, it would support many more. If this arithmetic were projected to the entire rice area, it can be seen that these lands have the food capacity to winter a tremendous number of ducks. Remember water attracts ducks but it is the food supply that holds them.

Blue and snow geese feed on succulent vegetation and roots that are obtained by grazing or grubbing. They relish newly sprouted rice, fertilized rye grass and other types of improved pastures. Burning of dead vegetation results in the production of succulent sprouts on which geese feed heavily. They also grub out thick, fleshy roots and tubers. A few years ago nearly all blue and snow geese wintered deep in the marsh. Today about one-third of them winter in the rice growing region of southwest Louisiana. Canada and speckled belly geese also utilize rice fields. To attract geese burn tracts of 15 or 20 acres about October 15. Continue to burn small blocks at two-week intervals.

The following recommendations are made for management of ricefields for ducks. It is very important to locate a landowner having rice fields near the marsh in an area having a waterfowl use history. Work out a lease arrangement now for harvested rice fields or fallow rice fields. The landowner must receive a reasonable return for the use of his land and his effort. Have a thorough understanding as to where the water supply for flooding will come from and its cost. Rainfall has not been a dependable source in many years. Include in your agreement that the owner or tenant will keep a specified acreage flooded from two weeks prior to the opening, to the closing of the hunting season. If you hunt during the early teal seasons, you will want to include this time in the flooding period. Most rice fields have been levelled or enclosed with levees. This reduces the volume of water required and the cost of operation, for water of only two or three inches in depth can be maintained over large areas of land. Never flood to a depth of more than 4 to 6 inches unless necessary. Flood small blocks of 15 to 20 acres. Large flooded areas permit ducks to scatter widely. Maintain more than one flooded area and rotate hunting from one to another. During the rest period new ducks will be attracted to the area and will remain on the area having no gun pressure. It may be desirable to keep a small flooded refuge area on which no shooting is permitted between the two shooting ponds. Reduce the rice stubble or the weeds on an acre or two of land in front of the blind by disking or burning. This is the area over which you will shoot. Some hunters flood entire fields prior to the hunting season then

Greatest use of rice fields by waterfowl occurs in the fields which are nearest adjacent marshlands. Many ducks, such as those shown above, form a habit of feeding in the rice fields and resting in the marsh. This is particularly true for pintail, teal, mallards and gadwall. In leasing rice fields for waterfowling, definite arrangements should be made with the landowner as to the water supply. Rainfall can not be counted upon to supply enough water for proper utilization of the leased fields.

Here a duck hunter heads out into a fallow rice field which has been partially flooded for waterfowl hunting. Heading for an area where he intends to hunt, he is confident that he will have good shooting because he has leased his land in advance and proper arrangements have been made for watering a portion of it. Planning in advance assures him tops in sport.

drain them, except for the hunting ponds, when the season opens.

Reduce grazing to a low level or prohibit it. Cattle eat the seed heads, trample it into the ground and trample the vegetation thus exposing seed to large flocks of small birds.

In fallow fields, brown top millet planted in late July makes a high yield and is an excellent duck food when flooded. Seed is readily available at many seed stores and production is simple. If planted early, it also provides dove shooting.

Cover is generally absent in rice fields. Allow weedy growth to remain along canals and fence rows and if possible on intrafield levees. Because of the lack of cover, shooting in open rice fields is more frightening to ducks than marsh shooting. Shoot ponds only two days per week and only in the morning. Be well settled in your blind when shooting time begins, shoot early and get out. Allow as much rest time for ducks as possible.

Build box-type pit blinds from ¾ marine plywood and set them deep in the ground. Camouflage them well with natural vegetation. Determine the general flight pattern of ducks in the area and place your blind accordingly. Since all shooting should be done in the morning, avoid locating your blind where you must face the sun. Use a camouflaged net-type cover that can be thrown clear when you are ready to shoot. Cover your blind when not in use to keep out mammals, reptiles and rainwater.

Use several decoys, preferably a mixture of pintail, mallard and a few poule-deau. Place a group of goose decoys in the water along one side of the pond and spread them off onto the adjacent dry land.

Don't jump into rice field shooting suddenly. Deliberately plan your operation. Operate on a small scale the first year to gain experience and to give the land owner an opportunity to become familiar with problems associated with this type of management. Don't expect to provide shooting for a large number of hunters. Limit your group to three or four hunters. Development of rice fields is one of the few remaining opportunities to secure a place to hunt waterfowl. Begin planning this month. ✠

BANDING FACTS

Ted Joanen and Howard Dupie

WATERFOWL BANDING programs conducted on Rockefeller Refuge each year have revealed several interesting facts concerning the movements, homing patterns and kill data, on some of our wintering waterfowl here in Louisiana. The program was started on Rockefeller Refuge during the winter of 1960 and since its initiation 10,939 birds were banded. Efforts were directed towards banding birds which played important roles to the hunters here in the state.

Post season banding or banding after the waterfowl season has closed usually begins on Rockefeller Refuge in January and continues through March, depending upon weather conditions. During this past banding season 1,566 ducks and geese were banded. This includes lesser scaup, pintails, mallards, mottled ducks, blue and green-winged teal, ring necked duck, gadwall, wood-duck, fulvous tree duck, blue and Canada geese.

Recovery rate of banded scaup was a low 2.02%. A total of 6,176 scaup were banded but only 125 bands were returned.

Banding recoveries for lesser scaup showed 65.5 per cent of the banded birds killed were taken in the Mississippi Flyway and 34.5 per cent were killed in the Central and Atlantic Flyways, Alaska, Canada, Mexico. Of the 65.5 per cent killed in the Mississippi Flyway 42.5 per cent were recovered in Minnesota, 34 per cent recovered in Louisiana, 10 per cent in Missouri and 9 per cent in Wisconsin. Other states included Iowa, Alabama, and Indiana all having recovered 1.5 per cent of the Louisiana banded scaup.

Lesser Scaup were found to demonstrate strong homing tendencies to the wintering grounds. Birds banded during the 1963-64 and 1964-65 operations were retrapped in the same area during the 1966-67 banding program. This pertained mainly to the female lesser scaup.

One blue-winged teal banded here in September, 1965 was killed four months later in Columbia, South America. These birds are early migrants through Louisiana and winter in Central and South America.

Bird banding work and various studies of bird migration and distribution is a cooperative program between the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, State Conservation Agencies, private groups, and the Canadian and Mexican government. If bird banding is to be a worthwhile project many states and federal groups must work together. The banding done on Rockefeller Refuge, is just one of the many stations located throughout the United States and Canada that contributes information which aids in properly managing the continental waterfowl population. ✠

Biologists are removing lesser scaup from a trap on Rockefeller Refuge. Information gained from bands recovered from hunters and other trapping operations provide data on which to base long-range management recommendations for duck hunting on the North American Continent.

FUR PRICE DISCOURAGING

Ted O'Neil

THUS FAR THIS SEASON fur prices have been discouraging, especially so when the past couple of seasons showed substantial increases over the previous ten to fifteen years.

The 1965-66 take was valued at $5,470,731, preceded with a $4,097,537 value for the 1964-65 season.

There are a number of reasons for the current season's sharp decline in fur prices, not only for the type furs that Louisiana produces, but for all furs including ranch mink. There are some very strong all-encompassing factors that are slowly tending to strangle the entire industry; then there were a few lesser factors that may have been partially prevented last season, particularly in the case of the nutria.

Nutria has recently been the backbone of Louisiana's Fur Industry. Since the development of an outlet for Eastern Louisiana Nutria in the lining, trimming and long-hair trade, especially in Europe, with some utilization in America, there has been an increasing demand each year for this item since the 1961-62 season. The trade has readily absorbed 7,017,016 Louisiana pelts at a price ranging from $1.25 to $2.90 per pelt paid to the trapper. This average price, of course, includes the Western Louisiana pelts that are used in the plucked and sheared state, valued at about one-third more per pelt than the Eastern Louisiana pelt.

Miss Linda Trappey, Queen of the 1967 Louisiana Fur and Wildlife Festival, held in Cameron in mid-January, is shown wearing a long-haired Louisiana nutria stole, adequate proof that in spite of price fluctuations in the market value of fur, nutria pelts can be processed and made into the most luxurious of garments.

Until last season, 1965-66, the continued demand and gradual seasonal increase in pelt price kept everyone from the dealer down to the trapper happy and enthusiastic with the nutria operation. There was practically no way of losing, in fact, it seemed no one could go wrong. However, experience is a great teacher and many of the dealers knew that there would be a day of reckoning. Fur dealing is a speculative business where each dealer is searching for the point of "how high is high".

There is a lag from six months to a year from the time the nutria pelt is purchased from the trapper until the dealer receives a return on his investment. Dealers in Louisiana's furs must have the capacity of being able to buy during the entire trapping season, holding a large percentage of the furs until the following fall selling season commencing in August and September.

The European and New York manufacturers and dealers are well aware, exactly to the hair, what it takes to handle a raw pelt, that is; have it dressed and manufactured into a finished garment that will be saleable on the retail market. This group continued to caution buyers time and again during the 1965-66 collecting season that the local prices in the field were out of line, but our people were so enthusiastic and confident with their past nutria operations, that they just continued competing against each other — "pulling themselves up by their boot strings", so to speak. During spells of fog, or bright moonlight nights nutria catches drop sharply, and trappers and buyers sit in the local "pubs" and just talk the price up another 25 cents. This, perhaps, is one of the reasons our pelts invariably bring more in the field than they do on the New York Auctions. Records show that this has been the first season in a decade that substantial losses have occurred in nutria handling.

When our current 1966-67 trapping season opened, only a few buyers and dealers ventured forth, rallying with prices comparable to the starting price of the previous season, more in an effort of speculation to see if others would follow, tending to protect the 1965-66 season's furs that were still on hand. They soon spent their cash and not many others were there to support them. At this time New York nor Europe showed much interest which caused the early buyers further losses.

At this point some Southeast Louisiana land-

(Continued on Page 21)

Photo SNAPS From

By Robert Dennie

Wyatt Jackson of Shreveport, third from left, was elected president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation at the organization's annual convention in Alexandria on April 2. He is shown shaking hands with Clyde D. Smith of New Orleans, retiring head of the sportsman's group. Other officers, from left, are Charles F. Buckley, Alexandria, second vice-president; Arthur L. Darnesteadt, Jr., West Lake, first vice-president; Jackson and Smith; Francis Braud, Norco, secretary and Ralph Kling, Sr., Gonzales, treasurer.

An exhibit on upland game, erected and manned by the Wildlife Education section of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, was the center of attention for delegates and guests attending the convention in Alexandria at the Bentley Hotel.

The law enforcement section of the federation meeting was on of the most interesting sessions of the convention and attracte sportsmen from all sections of the state.

Robert W. McDermid, associate professor of forestry and game management at LSU, receives the "Forest Conservationist" award from Chairman Thompson.

Carroll D. Goulas of Thibodaux gets the "Conservation Educator" award.

Dr. Leslie Glasgow, director of the Wild Life an Fisheries Commission, receives the Wildlife Federa tion trophy as "Conservationist of the Year" fror Commission Chairman Jimmie Thompson.

Bob Leonard of Baton Rouge received the "Conservation Organization" trophy during the awards program.

Representative Warren J. Simon of Kaplan was cited as the "Conservation Legislator of the Year" by the Wildlife Federation.

John McMillan, a reporter for the New Orleans States-Item, was cited by the Council of Sportsmen's Clubs of Greater New Orleans.

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE FEDERATION CONVENTION

Sportsmen, their wives and guests, overflowed the banquet room of the Bentley Hotel in Alexandria for the annual awards dinner held by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation on April 1.

Richard S. Thompson of Colfax accepts the "Soil Conservationist" award. Presenting the trophy is Jimmie Thompson of Alexandria, chairman of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission.

John E. Trygg, director of public health engineering for the State Department of Health, was named the "Water Conservationist of the Year" by the Wildlife Federation. He is shown receiving the award from Mr. Thompson.

E. R. McDonald, Sr., of Newellton is presented the "Outstanding Conservationist of the Year" award by the Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association. John Blanchard, out-going prexy of LOWA, makes the presentation.

Adrais LaBorde of the Alexandria Town Talk gets the "Pen" for his efforts toward purchase of the Spring Bayou area.

Mike Cook, outdoor editor of the Baton Rouge State-Times, was given the "Conservation Communication" trophy during the awards banquet.

Richard Yancey, assistant director of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, gets the T. A. Thompson Memorial trophy from Gerry De Bouchel of the St. Bernard Sportsman's League.

Billy Poe, left, of Newellton gets the "Big Buck" award from Wyatt Jackson, new president of the Wildlife Federation.

T. Roger of Norco, suave teller of "cajun tales" was the master of ceremonies during the annual awards banquet.

When fish population samples were taken in Lake Bruin in 1964 there were indications that the lake had fallen into what biologists call the "crowded population" category. It was clear that necessary steps had to be taken. The Tensas Police Jury agreed to controlled commercial fishing to remove rough fish. Permits to fish commercially were issued by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to fishermen such as shown above.

Gill netting operations, as well as other commercial fishing methods were employed. Under regulations supervised by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, in cooperation with the Tensas Police Jury, commercial fishing permits were issued upon request by the Ferriday District Office. Each permit holder was required to furnish a weekly report on his catch and to remove all rough fish taken in their webbing.

Lake Bruin Rough Fish Removal

Arthur M. Williams

LAKE BRUIN, a Mississippi River oxbow lake, is one of the most popular recreational areas in Louisiana. This lake covers 2,733 acres, is 9.2 miles long and the maximum width is approximately 0.5 miles, with a maximum depth of 58 feet. The lake basin is relatively steep and about seventy percent of the area is encompassed by the 10 foot depth contour.

It has been a common belief in the past that, "The more water present, the more fish there are"; however, this is not the case. Studies have shown that there is a correlation between fish production and the average depth of the lake. The productivity of a lake decreases as the average depth increases. In a deep lake such as Lake Bruin much of the water is unproductive. This is due to a phenomenon known as thermal stratification. This is simply a stratification of water according to temperature which commonly occurs in deep lakes and which is an annual occurrence in Lake Bruin and several other oxbow lakes along the Mississippi River. When this occurs there are three layers formed and the water in any one layer will not mix with another layer because of the different densities that are set up by these different temperatures. The bottommost layer, called the hypolimnion, is almost devoid of oxygen and, therefore, there is very little, if any, fish food present. A fish can go into this area for a short period of time, but will suffocate if he remains there. This area then is of very little use to the lake as far as productivity is concerned.

It has also been observed that in most lakes in which the water level has been stabilized there is a decline in productivity. This decline is related in part to the decreased availability of certain nutrients in the bottom soil. When a lake is new, or a new zone is flooded, these nutrients are found in a high level and are in a form that can be utilized by microscopic plants and animals which form the basis of the food chain. After a period of stable water level these nutrients are no longer available, being chemically bound in the soil.

Fish population samples taken in 1964 indicated that Lake Bruin fell into the "crowded population" category. Predation seems to have been inadequate as ninety-five percent of the bream were less than five inches in length. Heavy predation is necessary to keep forage fish from becoming over abundant. This is especially true in the case of bream. When they exceed their food supply "stunting" occurs and poor fishing is the end result.

This "stunting" can occur, however, from another source. Fish must have space in which to grow. This is just as critical as the food supply. Most of us have seen this in our own homes. Our children's gold fish never attain the size that they would in the wild, even though an almost constant food supply is available. This is due to the simple fact that there is just not enough space available to allow for growth.

The 1964 population samples indicated that commercial fish made up thirty-six percent of the population by weight and were not being harvested as they should have been. The removal of these commercial fish not only benefits the game species, but represents a cash crop which was not being fully utilized.

When lakes reach this point certain lake management practices must be initiated or the productivity will steadily decline. Water level fluctuation in combination with rough fish removal is the most often used and best method for dealing with these types of lakes. However, in the case of Lake Bruin water level fluctuation was not possible so it was decided to do the next best thing, reduce the present population to fit the lake, in a manner of speaking.

The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission in cooperation with the Tensas Parish Police Jury opened Lake Bruin to commercial fishing on a permit basis. These permits were issued at the District IV office in Ferriday, Louisiana. Any licensed commercial fisherman using legal tackle who wanted a permit was issued one. These permits required a written week-

For commerical fishermen, a morning's catch of buffalo such as this one is a boost in personal income. At the same time removal of the fish created more room for other fish to propagate and provide better sport fishing.

Catches of commercial fish such as these accomplished two things. First, they provided commercial fishermen with additional opportunity to add to their annual incomes. Perhaps, best of all for the greatest number of people, it helped bring about a better balance of fish in the lake, providing better sport fishing.

Some commercial fishermen even used floating buoy markers to clearly mark the areas where they had placed webbing. This was in addition to cork floats and prevented sport fishermen from running afoul of the nets being used and worked by commercial fishermen in the removal of rough fish from Lake Bruin.

ly catch report and also required the commercial fishermen to remove all rough fish taken in their webbing. Table I shows the results of the rough fish removal for the period October 3, 1966, through February 15, 1967. The season was closed May 1, 1967.

District IV Enforcement personnel, under the direction of Captain Wm. J. Gillespie, Jr., supervised the entire fishing operation. Wildlife agents supervised the operation to assure that only fishermen with permits were fishing the lake, and to further assure that an accurate record of fish removed from the lake was being submitted to the District office. As stated previously, permits were issued to any interested commercial fisherman who applied in person at the District IV office, where his name, address, and license number were recorded. In addition to the permit he was issued instructions and weekly report forms.

As noted in Table I, 107,851 pounds of rough fish that were in direct competition with small game fish for food were removed from the lake in 1966. This extra space and food became immediately available to the small game fish already present in the lake. This extra space and food should give these game fish an advantage on young-of-the-year fish that will be hatched this spring; therefore, a larger fish than ever will be taken from Lake Bruin this summer.

Population samples will be taken in Lake Bruin in an attempt to evaluate the rough fish removal project further, but on the basis of the information that we have now we can state that Lake Bruin will yield better fish this year and in the years hereafter because of this rough fish removal. ✠

Soon after commercial fishermen went into operation with their webbing, it became obvious that earlier estimates of the number of rough fish were accurate and that removal of them from the lake's waters would serve two purposes—productive commercial fishing and better sport fishing.

In the bag (mesh bag that is) are some fine buffalo that will add to the commercial fisherman's livelihood. During the period October 3, 1966, through February 15, 1967, commercial fishermen removed 629 pounds of catfish; 82,721 pounds of buffalo; 17,551 pounds of carp; 4,900 pounds of garfish; 1,839 pounds of Freshwater drum; 7,567 pounds of shad and 16 pounds of suckers, along with 5,204 pounds of turtles.

TABLE I

TOTAL NUMBER AND POUNDS OF ROUGH FISH REMOVED FROM LAKE BRUIN FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 3, 1966, THROUGH FEBRUARY 15, 1967

SPECIES	*POUNDS*
Catfish	629
Buffalo	82,721
Carp	17,551
Gar	4,900
Freshwater Drum	1,839
Shad	7,567
Suckers	16
	115,223
Turtles	5,204
TOTAL	120,427

The common crow, a native of Louisiana, is about seventeen to twenty inches long, is completely black and has a rounded tail. This bird is hated by many and perhaps rightly so. It eats eggs and young of other birds, robs corn-fields and at times is a general nuisance. This may be the case in one place, but it may do a great deal of good in another by eating insects harmful to man.

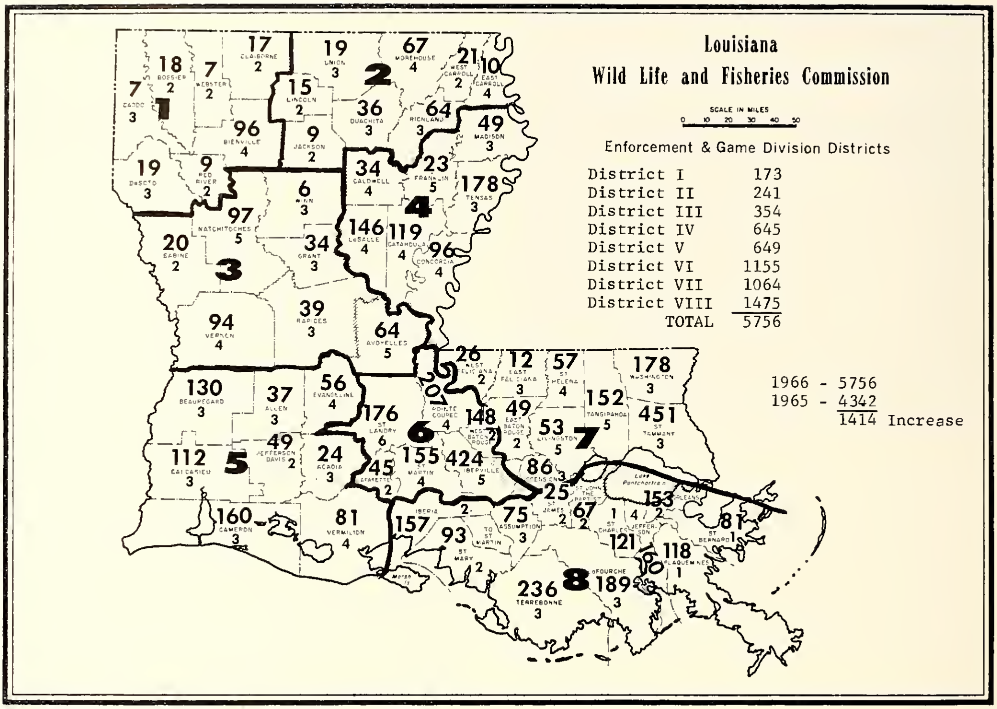
5,756 Recorded

Fish & Game Violations in 1966

A COMPILATION of statistics compiled by the Enforcement Division of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission for the calendar year 1966 revealed a total of 5,756 enforcement cases made during the year.

The following breakdown shows the types and numbers of violations in specific categories and further points out the Parishes and the Wildlife Agents making the specific cases.

Type of Violation	1966
Hunting mig. birds w/o lic.	33
Hunting mig. birds w/o fed. stamp	43
No duck tags	1
Hunting mig. birds illegal hours	153
Overlimit mig. birds	121
Hunting mig. birds cl. season	198
Hunting mig. birds over baited pond	23
Hunting mig. birds w/unplugged gun	29
Hunting mig. birds w/live decoys	6
Hunting mig. birds from power boat	67
Selling mig. waterfowl	0
Shooting mig. birds from road or hwy.	2
Transporting ducks illegal	3
Shooting ducks w/rifle	1
Taking illegal birds	26
Hunting & killing grosbec	6
Hunting doves cl. season	29
Hunting doves w/o lic.	17
Overlimit doves	10
Hunting doves ill. hours	12
Hunting teal w/o lic.	8
Overlimit teal	15
Hunting teal w/o permit	16
Hunting teal w/o stamp	0
Hunting teal w/unplugged gun	1
Hunting coots cl. season	3
Overlimit coots	37
Hunting coots w/o lic.	1
Hog theft	2
Camping on GMA at night	3
Hunting on GMA w/o permit	4
Hunting on GMA illegal	10
Firehunting	2
Poss. of meadow lark (killed)	3
Attempting to take overlimit	6
Shooting across state hwy.	1
Discharging firearms from Fed.rt.-of-way	3
Shooting pistol over lake	13
Sharing & poss. illegal game	1
Poss. illegal whiskey	2
Resisting arrest	18
Hunting frogs in cl. season	38
Poss. of firearms while hunting frogs	7
Hunting frogs w/illegal gig	3
Undersize frogs	2
Hunting w/o lic.	227
Hunting w/o non-resident lic.	27
Hunting w/unplugged gun	89
Hunting at night	469
Hunting rabbits w/o lic.	41
Hunting rabbits in cl. season	80
Overlimit rabbits	9
Selling rabbits	2
Hunting rabbits w/weed machine	2
Poss. wild rabbits	1
Hunting squirrels w/o lic.	20
Hunting squirrels in cl. season	91
Overlimit squirrels	4
Selling squirrels	1
Hunting from moving vehicle	15
Killing & poss. ibis	9
Hunting in flooded area	4
Hunting on road or hwy.	8
Hunting quail in cl. season	13
Hunting turkey w/o lic.	2
Hunting turkey in cl. season	6
Hunting turkey over baited area	0
Hunting turkey no tag	0
Hunting turkey w/illegal gun	1
Hunting deer w/o basic lic.	29
Hunting deer w/o big game lic.	12
Hunting deer in cl. season	118
Hunting deer in cl. parish	16
Hunting deer w/unplugged gun	17
Hunting deer—untagged	81
Poss. illegal deer	86
Poss. illegal deer meat	8
Killing doe deer	54
Running dog in still area	0
Hunting deer in flooded area	0
Poss. gun while bow hunting	0
Shooting deer off road or hwy.	28
Hunting deer w/illegal gun	9
Selling deer	9
Trespassing on refuge—no permit	3
Trespassing on refuge w/gun	20
No camping permit	5
Operating hunting club w/o lic.	0
Hunting illegal on GMA	20
Killing deer at night w/light & gun	9
Hunting bear in cl. season	8
Trapping w/o lic.	9
Trapping in cl. season	14
Trapping on state preserve	0
Shooting furbearing animals	13
Shipping w/o lic.	0
Buying and selling w/o lic.	0
Taking nutria at night w/light & gun	13
Selling coon w/o lic.	3
Hunting coon at night w/shotgun	14
Taking alligator in cl. season	20
Poss. of undersized alligator	1
Shipping alligator w/o tag or permit	4
Poss. of piranha fish	2
Angling w/o lic.	1,295
Angling w/o non-resident lic.	36
Angling illegal tackle	0
Overlimit fish	0
Shocking fish	17
Poss. of illegal fish	4
Commercial fishing w/o lic.	49
Selling commercial fish w/o lic.	8
Using nets in santuary	6
Undersized commercial fish	93
Overlimit commercial fish	3
Using illegal tackle commercial fishing	83
Blocking passage	14
Seining game fish	24
Trapping fish	5
Illegal comm. fish in poss.	13
Selling crabs w/o lic.	0
Undersize crabs	0
Trawling w/o lic.	39
Trawling in santuary	0
Trawling in cl. waters	46
Trawling w/net over 50 ft.	0
Pulling double rig	0
Undersized shrimp	49
Selling shrimp w/o lic.	0
Oversize butterfly nets	1
Operating unregistered motorboat	253
Expired numbers on boat	72
No life preservers	896
No running lights	10
Water skiing w/o observer	13
Reckless operation of boat	8
No fire extinguisher	3
TOTAL	5,756


Louisiana
Wild Life and Fisheries Commission
SCALE IN MILES
0 10 20 30 40 50
Enforcement & Game Division Districts

District	
District I	173
District II	241
District III	354
District IV	645
District V	649
District VI	1155
District VII	1064
District VIII	1475
TOTAL	5756

1966 - 5756
1965 - 4342
1414 Increase

Map above shows Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission's eight Districts marked by dark boundaries and large numbers. Medium size numbers are total enforcement cases made by parishes in 1966 and small numbers indicate number of agents in each Parish making cases.

Parish	No. of Viol. 1966
Acadia	24
Allen	37
Ascension	86
Assumption	75
Avoyelles	64
Beauregard	130
Bienville	96
Bossier	18
Caddo	7
Calcasieu	112
Caldwell	34
Cameron	160
Catahoula	119
Claiborne	17
Concordia	96
DeSoto	19
E. Baton Rouge	49
E. Carroll	10
E. Feliciana	12
Evangeline	56
Franklin	23
Grant	34
Iberia	157
Iberville	424
Jackson	9
Jefferson	160
Jefferson Davis	49
Lafayette	45
Lafourche	189
LaSalle	146
Lincoln	15
Livingston	53
Madison	49
Morehouse	67
Natchitoches	97
Orleans	153
Ouachita	36
Plaquemines	118
Pt. Coupee	207

Parish	No. of Viol. 1966
Rapides	39
Red River	9
Richland	64
Sabine	20
St. Bernard	81
St. Charles	121
St. Helena	57
St. James	25
St. John	67
St. Landry	176
St. Martin	155
St. Mary	93
St. Tammany	451
Tangipahoa	152
Tensas	178
Terrebonne	236
Union	19
Vermilion	81
Vernon	94
Washington	178
Webster	7
W. Baton Rouge	148
W. Carroll	21
W. Feliciana	26
Winn	6
TOTAL	5,756

	Number of Cases
AGENT IV	
J. L. DeBlieux	5
Lesma Hebert	0
Charles Ventrella	6
AGENT III (At Large)	
Jimmy Hairford	8
Sidney Emfinger	55
MAIN OFFICE	
A. L. Prechac, Jr., WLA III	15

	Number of Cases
MAIN OFFICE	
P. J. Trocchiano, WLA II	5
INVESTIGATOR	
Grady Floyd	11
Preston Mauboules	2
DISTRICT I	
E. L. Stanfield, WLA III	2
Bossier	
Keith C. Doty, WLA II	3
Jack E. Weaver, WLA I	9
Bienville	
Ernest O. McCoy, WLA II	34
Robert C. Person, WLA I	22
Francis B. Harper, WLA I	7
Hugh E. Hay, WLA I	57
Caddo	
Curtis Menefee, WLA II	1
Marvin Haynie, WLA I	5
Clive A. Small, Jr., WLA I	3
Claiborne	
Thurman Garret, WLA I	16
Roy D. Odom, WLA II	12
DeSoto	
Noble Speights, WLA II	12
Harmond T. Burgess, WLA I	15
Norman I. Gamble, WLA I	15
Red River	
Ronald B. Cason, WLA II	8
James Jowers, WLA I	9
Webster	
Claude Smith, WLA II	3
Tommie J. Wise, WLA I	2
DISTRICT II	
Harvey Christian, WLA III	0
E. Carroll	
Quinton R. Fortenbery, WLA II	4
Chappel C. Magee, WLA I	5
John A. Bullock, WLA I	4
Gene Flynn, WLA I	3
A. D. Duncan, LU	0
W. Carroll	
James A. Ford, WLA II	24
Charles W. Cockerham, WLA I	22
Morehouse	
Dan P. Mayo, WLA II	49
Frank Burgess, WLA I	16
Henry W. Langston, WLA I	49
Ray Harrison, WLA I	51
Union	
James E. Hamilton, WLA II	7
Kenneth V. Smith, WLA I	3
John Claude Bowen, WLA I	8
Lincoln	
Spencer Maxwell, WLA II	16
Jewell Williamson, WLA I	7
Jackson	
Ira V. Wyatt, WLA II	10
Lonnie Salsbury, WLA I	8
Ouachita	
Frank Swayze, WLA II	10
Lawrence E. Phillips, WLA I	13
Grady E. Floyd, WLA I	11
Walter L. Acklen, LU	0
Richland	
George C. Lobrano, WLA II	33
Henry Albritton, WLA I	29
Holmes Brunson, WLA I	32
DISTRICT III	
Earl H. Nugent, WLA III	4
Natchitoches	
Eugene Weaver, WLA II	23
James T. Joyner, WLA I	10
Tracy A. Lucky, WLA I	15
Elvis Rhodes, WLA I	57
W. H. Taylor, Jr., WLA I	42
Winn	
Victor L. Rayborn, WLA II	8
Philip Anderson, WLA I	5
Hoyt W. Harrington, WLA I	0
Rapides	
Arnie P. Sasser, WLA II	47
Murrel E. Price, WLA I	6
Roy J. Perry, LU	3
Burton Wildy, WLA I	5
DISTRICT III	
Avoyelles	
Alvin P. Armand, WLA II	39
Edward J. Walker, WLA I	39
John Wheeler, WLA I	9
Alfred Couvillion, WLA I	79
Edward Tassin, WLA I	9
Sabine	
Clyde E. Anthony, WLA II	18
Edgar P. Savell, WLA I	5
Grant	
Wesley Slay, WLA II	12
Jack A. Coleman, WLA I	25
Earl H. Corley, WLA I	13
Vernon	
Clarence Hood, WLA II	75
Jennings Self, WLA I	1
Jimmie L. McCullough, WLA I	74
Otto J. Stephens, WLA I	9
DISTRICT IV	
William Gillespie, Jr., WLA III	32
Madison	
Jesse Laird, WLA II	26
John McGraw, WLA I	27
Oran C. Lewis, WLA I	5
Caldwell	
James H. Roberts, WLA II	17
A. C. Duckett, WLA I	17
Grady Warford, WLA I	11
Buddy Nugent, WLA I	12
Franklin	
Rheo G. Stewart, WLA II	11
Charles W. Welch, WLA I	14
Bonny B. Newcomer, WLA I	3
Lonnie R. Hatton, Jr., WLA I	10
Alton McKeithen, WLA I	17
LaSalle	
Willie R. Stutson, WLA II	72
Earl Ray Coon, WLA I	20
Jesse Ray Ruddell, WLA I	58
Cullen I. Gibson, WLA I	79
Catahoula	
Allen D. Swayze, WLA II	64
Ray Barron, WLA I	55
Wm. H. Tarpley, WLA I	55
Orval Poole, WLA I	39
Mayo York, LU	76
Tensas	
R. Vance Herring, WLA II	76
Willie P. Barfield, WLA I	43
Fermin Ulmer, LU	102
Manuel L. Duncan, WLA I	70
James D. Woodruff, LU	50
Concordia	
T. H. Forman, Jr., WLA II	37
Thomas January, WLA I	10
Herman H. Green, WLA I	42
Ivy M. Beard, WLA I	31
Nelson M. Book, LU	34
DISTRICT V	
James F. Ellis, WLA III	0
Beauregard	
Murrel G. Cole, WLA II	83
Buck Spillers, WLA I	35
Allen	
Raymond Rowell, WLA II	142
Clifton M. Elmore, WLA I	12
Oscar Strother, WLA I	143
Calcasieu	
Barnett W. Jardell, WLA II	177
L. C. Andrus, WLA I	112
Newton Reeves, WLA I	29
Acadia	
Lester J. Hebert, WLA II	16
Irvy J. Hanks, WLA I	27
Clyde LaCroix, WLA I	40
Vermilion	
Kern Broussard, WLA II	58
Donald J. Miller, WLA I	57
Walter A. Ramke, Sr., WLA I	69
John D. Istre, WLA I	80
Jeff Davis	
Louis Leleux, WLA II	118
Clinton A. Patterson, WLA I	109

DISTRICT V

	Number of Cases
Cameron	
Arnold Rutherford, WLA II	132
Myrle G. Hebert, WLA I	135
Daniel Roux, WLA I	0
Evangeline	
Jennings Lemoine, WLA II	30
Joseph A. Andrus, WLA I	24
Hugh W. O'Pry, WLA I	4
Guy Ford Hays, WLA I	28

DISTRICT VI

Vincent Purpera, Jr., WLA III	20
Pt. Coupee	
James C. Spruill, WLA II	120
Wilfred Bonaventure, WLA I	68
Hubert Humphreys, WLA I	135
Elmo Torres, WLA I	98
W. Baton Rouge	
Leon J. Altazan, WLA II	160
Anthony J. Cashiola, WLA I	168
Joseph Saia, LU	30
Lafayette	
Easton J. Cormier, WLA II	29
Noice P. Begnaud, WLA I	40
St. Landry	
Regile Doucet, Jr., WLA II	12
Coleman Fontenot, WLA I	41
Hyrum L. Martin, WLA I	50
Honore Tate, WLA I	70
Durwood McGee, WLA I	48
Vincent D. Darby, WLA I	72
St. Martin	
Robert Romero, Sr., WLA II	87
Alcide Dupre, WLA I	95
Melvin J. Dupuis, WLA I	106
Russell Landry, WLA I	35
Iberville	
H. J. Webber, WLA II	203
Sterling P. Hebert, WLA I	152
Alfred J. Orillion, WLA I	227
George R. Hoffman, WLA I	211
Clinton Hebert, WLA I	110

DISTRICT VII

Leroy Seal, WLA III	22
W. Feliciana	
Jos. S. Rosenthal, WLA II	20
Glyde A. Harvey, WLA I	22
E. Feliciana	
Ben A. Price, WLA II	28
George Bunch, WLA I	39
Paul Littlefield, WLA I	24
E. Baton Rouge	
James Singleton, WLA II	47
Huey P. Sanders, WLA I	36
St. Helena	
Granville McCoy, WLA II	33
Roscoe Brecheen, WLA I	28
Ernest Dillon, WLA I	64
Henry E. Breeland, WLA I	82
Livingston	
Prestley R. Mack, WLA II	32
Charles Harris, WLA I	5
L. P. Easterly, WLA I	19
Allen C. Jones, WLA I	25
Lloyd H. Smith, WLA I	60
Tangipahoa	
Jesse M. Sanders, WLA II	36
Joseph Anderson, WLA I	102
Huey Bardwell, WLA I	14
E. J. Milton, WLA I	177
Nick Niehaus, WLA I	150
Ascension	
Harold Schexnayder, WLA II	112
George Furlow, WLA I	22
Robert A. Joffrion, WLA I	28
Washington	
Levert Strahan, WLA II	99
Thomas A. Kemp, WLA I	299
Sidney J. Lyons, WLA I	98
St. Tammany	
Arthur D. Parker, WLA II	156
Bradley W. Herrin, WLA I	45
Arthur Jenkins, WLA I	62

DISTRICT VIII

Frank Trocchiano, WLA III	0

WILDLIFE AGENTS COMMENDED

Leslie L. Glasgow, right, director of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, is shown shaking hands with Capt. Ted Bonin, third from left, as he extended official commendation to Capt. Bonin and Wildlife Agent Gilmand J. Landry, second from left, for capturing accused murderer Roy Mejia 10 days following his escape from the East Baton Rouge Jail. Acting Chief of Enforcement Leonard New, left, looks on during the meeting which took place in the director's office following the capture of Mejia. The two Wildlife Enforcement Agents apprehended Mejia while on routine patrol not far from Avery Island. They recognized him immediately and following his arrest, escorted him to Avery Island where they turned the accused killer of a mother and three children over to Parish authorities.

DISTRICT VIII

	Number of Cases
Assumption	
Cullen J. Landry, WLA II	120
Chris Acosta, WLA I	106
Sterling Landry, WLA I	116
Iberia	
Theodore Bonin, WLA II	163
Gilmand J. Landry, WLA I	100
Jos. Waguespack, Boat Capt.	138
Lafourche	
Ulysse J. Ougel, WLA II	144
Lloyd Songe, Boat Capt.	177
Earl J. Adams, WLA I	167
St. Mary	
Aubrey Nini, WLA II	125
Huey O. Ashley, WLA II	28
Terrebonne	
Peter C. Legnon, WLA II	228
James V. Jaccuzzo, WLA I	68
J. L. Thibodeaux, WLA I	46
St. James	
Robert J. Pertuis, WLA II	32
Mark J. Granier, WLA I	29
St. John	
Earl Gorio, WLA II	81
Frank Reno, Sr., WLA I	90
St. Charles	
Ray A. Montet, WLA I	162
St. Bernard	
Samuel J. Nunez, Sr., WLA II	26
Plaquemines	
Emile Perez, WLA II	112
Maurice J. Jeanfreau, WLA I	118
Jefferson	
Alex Coulon, Sr., WLA II	92
Joseph L. Billiot, WLA II	18
Irvin H. Dares, Jr., WLA I	177
Charles Miller, Boat Capt.	181
Orleans	
Albert Camus, WLA II	178
James Cavalier, WLA I	152
E. J. Ranson, Comm.Sfd.Insp.	4

PJT/cod

Fur Price Discouraging

(Continued from Page 11)

owners, operators and trappers called for a two week halt of trapping, provided the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission would recommend a two week extension in their areas, if prices had improved when the trappers returned to the field. The price showed no improvement. Therefore, the season extension was not requested. Prices in the Western part of Louisiana are about one-third off of last year, however, the trappers continued to remain in the field, due to the difference in quality of the fur and they were able to make ends meet.

Trappers statewide, have been very disappointed and many pulled up early and went to other jobs. Preparations for trapping were greater this fall than in many years, anticipating the same price as the previous season and perhaps better. Very few heeded the undertones of the situation and did not venture forth. The last few sentences in the fur article published in the November-December 1966 of the LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST was a warning, but was just not the type information a trapper wants to hear.

Reports are that the slump in the economy of Western Germany and Italy where most of our furs are used, especially nutria, is a temporary recession that may improve rapidly. In the past, European dealers have made their purchases for their following year's manufacturing seasons during our raw fur collecting season. This gave us an outlet for furs during the trapping and buying period. However, extremely high interest rates and tight money forced the Europeans to change this policy somewhat and buy as needed. This change of policy has thrown the burden of collecting the season's entire crop upon our resident and non-resident dealers. Only a few dealers have done any substantial selling this season. The most active buyers were those who were not too active last year.

Some of the factors that must be recognized by the trade and dealt with, with extreme care and skill, is that we are in a state of renaissance, so to speak, not only in the fur trade, but in every phase of human life and the minds of men.

Our basic process of handling fur has not changed since the old "Hudson Bay" days. Louisiana buyers and dealers are doing much the same thing that they did in 1912 and before. By this method the trend has always been a few profitable years then go into a slump; start over again and try to be a little more cautious heeding the signs of fore-warning and "pull in the horns". What makes this pulling-in business so difficult is the fact that over the period of good years each dealer has surrounded himself with an organization of trappers, buyers and customers that do not have as much to lose, so they are coerced by their organization to plunge forward again headlong into that fatal season, and the more that they try to protect themselves and everyone connected, the worse off it gets.

It must be first recognized that fur has no intrinsic value unless promoted tending to create a value. On the other hand, such items as shrimp, oysters and fish can be eaten, "but fur", perhaps nutria meat may be as valuable as the fur some day, Raccoon and Opossum already is. This sounds unbelievable, but without proper promotion these are the things that have happened.

Another fact that must be recognized is that a fur garment is no longer the "status symbol" with women that it once was — not even Mink. Until recently European desires lagged about ten years behind America, which is the primary reason why the market for the type furs we produce was shifted to foreign countries. Of course there were other factors — cheaper labor, dressing and skilled designing and technicians that were willing to work other furs, as well as Mink. Europeans have always been more fur minded, with wardrobes containing several different types of fur coats with matching accessories. Americans in recent years have specialized primarily on ranch Mink. Reports are that the Europeans have caught up with us and the "status symbol" of fur has become a little less important there also.

Many of us remember when a Muskrat coat really meant a great deal and this was reflected all the way back to our trapper in the marshes. It appears that Louisiana is on the threshold of a greater increase in Muskrat populations. Muskrats have been in such short numbers for the past eighteen years that the entire organization of Southern Muskrat workers have either passed away or gone into other fields. If our production increases normally or as expected, this entire trade must be re-established, promoted, and it is a must that the designers and promoters come up with some new thinking. Dealers in Southern Muskrats again will be responsible for a large part of the financing, handling and assisting the manufacturers until they become established. It might be mentioned that much of the State's one million acres of prime Muskrat producing marshes are in much better shape today than was ever expected in spite of all the industrialization that has encroached upon our marshes in the past twenty years. One may ask what might be done under this gloomy set of circumstances that face this industry that has meant much to upward of 20,000 citizens during certain periods in the last fifty years.

It's a good bet, that the fur people won't give up, not one inch, but that this season's reverses will act as a catalyst, tending to stimulate their resourcefulness. We have always said if you take a fur man and throw him in any "Old brier patch", if given a little time he will come out without a scratch. We believe that this is the time for the fur trade to tap the new sources that have been waiting too long. This is the mode and winter sports minded group that have no fear of depressions, recessions, nor anything else for that matter; yes, and even fur for men where it may regain a status symbol. ✠

SALT WATER FISHING FEVER

Bennie J. Fontenot, Jr.

More and more Louisiana sportsmen are becoming infected with salt water fishing fever. In fact, since spring has arrived with summer just around the corner and the shotgun has now been oiled and stored in the closet, one can say that this fever has probably reached epidemic proportions.

The cure recommended is for one to put his worries aside, grab the favorite fishing gear and go enjoy a fun-filled, rewarding salt water fishing excursion, whether it be surf fishing in the gulf, bay fishing or the very exciting rig fishing.

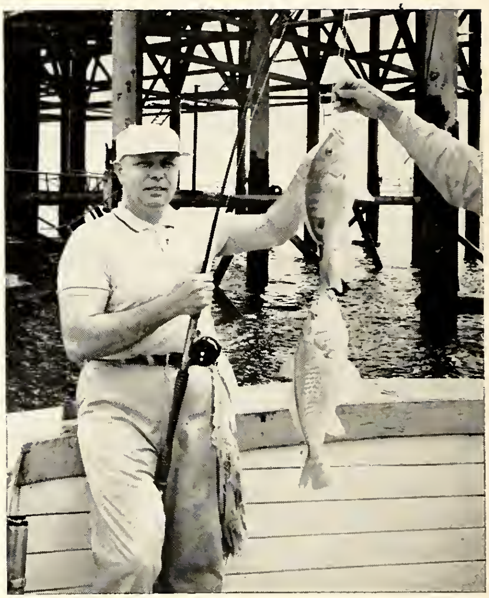
With the influx of warmer weather resulting in increasing water temperatures, many species of "tackle bustin' " salt water game fish have migrated back into the shallows from the deeper offshore waters and from the deep holes located in the many brackish water bayous which traverse our unique Louisiana marshes. Probably the most sought after game fish, which has returned to our surf and to our myriad of bays, is the ever popular, extremely sporty, and delicious eating speckled trout. The speckled trout is also called spotted weakfish, spotted sea trout or just simply, spec.

Another highly-prized, bull dozer-pulling, savory-eating sportsfish now prowling the shallows is the redfish, also known as red drum or channel bass. One might hear a group of fishermen speaking of "rat reds" or "bull reds". To clarify this a rat red is a redfish weighing up to about five pounds; whereas, bull reds are those redfish weighing above five pounds and up. A redfish weighing around thirty pounds is not too unusual. It should be noted, however, that redfish angling is by no means limited to the warmer months.

On the contrary, the best redfish angling occurs during the fall spawning period around the mouths of brackish water bayous and cuts, again during the dead of winter in deep marsh bayou holes, where the redfish take refuge from the surrounding shallow colder waters. These holes are often located in the bends of the bayous where the redfish, congregated like a herd of grazing cattle, are waiting for the angler to cast his hook.

Other popular fishes caught in abundance in the shallows during the spring and summer months are flounder, white trout, sheepshead, drum and the ever-abundant croaker, which appears to be any and everywhere one might choose to fish.

The best months for surf fishing in Louisiana are from May until late October. Probably the most popular place along the Louisiana coast is the gulf side of Grand Isle, where seven miles



Gulf fishing generally means rig fishing for the average angler or member of a charter party. Most of the rolling, on an annual average, is for bigger fish. This salt water angler holds a double-header of red snappers. In addition to the main hook, most snapper fishermen use a drop line attached to the swivel and take them two at a time when they locate a school.

Catching sheepshead calls for sensitive touch, knowledge of when to set the hook and how to maneuver the hooked fish away from the piling or stump where it may have been lurking before being caught. While not as highly-prized as many other salt water species, the sheepshead can be fashioned into many different types of dishes and salads.

When fishing fever develops, there is nothing to do but head for one of Louisiana's inland coastal bays, bayous or the gulf and cure that special brand of fever. A big redfish such as this one is enough to reduce fishing fever a degree or possibly two degrees.

of productive beach is enhanced by numerous jetties which aid in attracting the sought-after game fish. When the specs are "running" in the surf, look out, for there will be busy surf fishermen being well rewarded, standing side by side from one end of the beach to the other, enjoying a thrill that cannot be described, but can be felt only by actually being there.

Other places which are very productive for surf fishing but can be reached only by boat or airplane are the Breton Island Chain, Timbalier Island, Isle Derniere, Wine Island and a small stretch of beach near Point au Fer.

Good bay fishing actually begins in the month of March, provided one can choose a day when the wind isn't blowing too strongly. Most sportsmen have their pet spots to fish, but generally speaking, fishing near shell or oyster reefs, around or under platforms, along the sandy beaches of bay islands, or near the mouths or cuts of bayous emptying into the bay, can be quite productive, especially if one runs into a school of hungry hard-hitting specs.

Another spot to try one's luck is where one might observe a congregation of sea gulls flying in haphazard circles, diving to the water capturing food from a school of forage fish. The fisherman should cast his bait there since the game fish he is pursuing might also be attracted to this food and might be feeding there just as the sea gulls are.

Night fishing at the various flares scattered throughout our bays can be quite rewarding. It is not uncommon for a fishing party of four to catch around 300 specs interspersed with some white trout in a one night fishing trip.

Again Grand Isle with its Barataria Bay and Caminada Bay ranks as having some of the best bay fishing, not only in Louisiana, but along the entire gulf coast, especially if one is referring to specs. However, red fish, flounder, white trout, drum, sheepshead, and bull croakers are quite prominent. Moving in a westerly direction from Grand Isle, the area known as Cocodrie with Timbalier Bay and Terrebonne Bay are often unsurpassed in their excellent fishing. These are but a few bays mentioned among the many strung out along the entire Louisiana coast, fished by thousands of Louisiana anglers and by sportsfishermen from other states as well.

As far as tackle is concerned, a fast tapered spinning rod with 12 pound test monofilament is probably the preferred tackle used. However, fast tapered casting rods fitted with fast, free spooling casting reels are very popular also.

In the surf, artificial lures probably predominate over live, dead or cut bait. This probably can be said for bay fishing also. Some of the popular lures used are shad rigs, bingos, shiny spoons such as Mr. Champ, sidewinders, limper and flashy plugs such as the various colored mirror lures. Sometimes when the fish aren't hitting the artificial bait alone too well, place a popping cork anywhere from one to three feet above the lure, retrieving it slowly while popping the cork intermittently. This will increase fishing success. Some fishermen, when using the popping cork with an artificial lure, place small pieces of shrimp or cut-bait on the treble hooks.

Speaking of live or cut bait, without doubt, the most popular is the common commercial shrimp which we humans also relish. The shrimp is fished both dead and alive; it is fished with the popping cork or bottomed fished with a sinker. "Free shrimping" is casting a live-hooked shrimp without any lead to weigh it down permitting the shrimp to swim about hoping it will attract

The speckled trout is the most sought-after game fish in the inland bays, bayous and coastal passes. An ice chest of specks such as this one is the perfect cure for fishing fever. It's only a temporary cure and when the fever returns, better plan another salt water fishing trip.

the hungry jaws of a spec, flounder, redfish, or any other sought-after sport fish.

Other very popular and much fished live and cut baits are coccoho minnows, live and cut mullet, small croakers, hermit crabs and small blue crabs. These baits can be fished in most of the various combinations mentioned above for the shrimp.

Disadvantages of using live or cut-bait is that the fisherman might be pestered with blue crabs, sea catfish or sting rays.

Leaving the bays and surf and venturing to the offshore rigs, the salt water fisherman is truly going to the mecca of salt water fishing.

What makes rig fishing so fabulous? It probably can be attributed to two factors—food and cover. Collected upon the numerous pilings, which support the rig, are barnacles and planktonic organisms which serve as food for small forage fish. Also, the maze of underwater pipes and pilings provide cover for these same smaller fish.

With both food and cover present, forage fish are attracted to the rigs, in great numbers. Therefore, where one finds concentrations of smaller forage fish, one will also find the hungry schools of game fish which constantly pursue and prey upon them.

The big four caught around the rigs are pompano (absent in warmer months), red snapper, Spanish mackerel and blue fish. Also, a chief target in the summer months is the cobia. Other fish caught around the rigs are spade fish, white trout, jewfish, groupers, redfish, and occasionally speckled trout.

So, when rig fishing, whether one is fishing with light tackle, medium tackle, or heavy tackle, of which the latter two are recommended; whether one is casting or trolling around the pilings with artificials; or whether one is bottom fishing in deep water, there is always plenty of action waiting there for the enthusiastic salt water sportsmen.

So if you're down with the salt water fishing fever, go cure yourself, and have a heck of a good time taking the medicine. ✻

Wildlife Shorts

Two species of "box turtles" are native to Louisiana. These are called "land turtles" in distinction from "water turtles," but are not as strictly dry land animals as are the tortoises. After rains, box turtles are frequently seen crawling about in search of pools of water, in which they love to sit for a spell. The larger species in known as the "cane turtle", and can be recognized by four toes on each of its hind feet. The smaller is the three-toed box turtle, which has only three toes on each of its hind feet.

Snow geese arrive in Louisiana in the first week of October and remain in numbers until late April, although a few may linger until May and occasionally individuals are seen in summer.

Wildlife Shorts

The trumpeter swan, with a maximum weight of 40 pounds, is the heaviest flying bird in North America. There have been no reports of trumpeter swans in Louisiana since 1915. There are indeed only two dated records for the state.

Of all the birds that inhabit Louisiana, ducks are the ones for which our state is best known, for throughout the continent, the great Louisiana marshes are recognized as a duck and goose paradise.

The white-fronted goose, which commonly goes by the name of "speckle belly", is a moderately common spring and fall transient in Louisiana. Fall migration begins early in October and the last spring migrants are usually gone by April 15.

Each autumn tens of thousands of blue geese, in company with kindred species, pass southward down the Mississippi Valley to winter in Louisiana's immense coastal marshes. Each spring they rise out of these marshes to wing their way northward. For generations men have watched this seasonal procession and have never failed to be thrilled by it.

The fulvous tree duck occurs rather commonly in southwestern Louisiana, especially in August and September in the rice fields. The common name is "Mexican Squealer."

A dozen or more kinds of turtles make their homes in fresh water ponds, swamps, lakes, creeks, bayous and rivers. The largest of these is the "alligator snapper", better known locally as the "fresh water loggerhead", or simply "loggerhead."

The common mallard is a winter resident of Louisiana and is the best known of all North American ducks. It has been extensively domesticated and is thus seen in barnyards and parks. Wild mallards are widespread throughout the state from mid-October to mid-March, and they remain in some localities until late April or early May.

Wild turkey are found in those Louisiana uplands where oaks, beech and other nut-bearing trees predominate, and where there is sufficient undergrowth to protect the birds while feeding.

A total of 75 beaver colonies have been located within the state of Louisiana west of the Mississippi River. Seventy of these colonies were the direct results of known releases by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission. Five colonies could not be traced to any recorded releases. Most of the colonies in North Louisiana are presently found in Morehouse, Tensas, Bienville and Grant Parishes.

The Bird of the month

INDIGO BUNTING

Passerina cyanea

Charles R. Shaw

THE FRINGILLIDAE or Finch Family is one of the largest known families of birds and includes besides finches, all of the sparrows, grosbeaks, buntings, etc. Although classed generally as small or medium sized birds they vary in size and especially in color. The most common characteristic would seem to be the somewhat conical shaped bill which is adapted for eating seeds.

The name of the Indigo Bunting, one of the smaller members of the family, is derived from the uniform bright blue coloration of the male in breeding plumage. The color alone will serve as identification since there is no other sparrow sized Louisiana bird with this solid blue hue. The only chance of misidentification would seem to be in the close resemblance to the slightly darker Blue Grosbeak but the latter is somewhat larger and has two broad brownish wingbars as well as a heavier looking bill.

The brownish colored female Indigo Buntings resemble their close relatives the sparrows, although the back is unstreaked and there may be a tinge of bluish in the tail or shoulders.

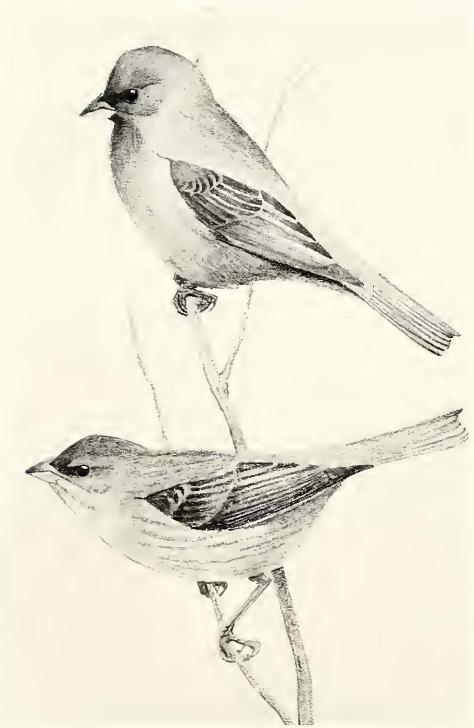
Incidentally the blue is not due to actual pigment but is a function of feather structure and refracted light so that birds perched on high wires against the sunny sky may appear blackish rather than the characteristic bright blue.

During April and the first part of May these birds may be seen in large numbers as they move northward through the state in their spring migration. Quite often careful observation of the same areas will disclose their colorful cousins, the Painted Buntings, which migrate at the same time.

Not all of the Indigo Buntings continue on, however, since they are commonly found breeding throughout the state except for the extreme coastal areas. Although the males may be seen singing from high wires and tree tops, these buntings are essentially birds of brushy and heavily weeded areas or viney tangles. They may often be found along the edges of woods, railroad and utility rights-of-way, canals, etc.

As might be expected the nests will be found in bushes or tangles of vines rather than high up in the trees. These nests, deeply cupped in form, seem to be constructed mainly or entirely by the females and are made of dead leaves, weed stems and coarse grass, lined with softer materials.

The three to five eggs are a very pale blue or bluish white and are incubated by the female for about twelve days before hatching. The male does step in and do his share of helping with the feeding of the little birds. During the ten days or two weeks in which the young remain in the nest innumerable insects of many kinds are consumed since a high protein diet is essential for the growth and development of the fast growing fledglings. The parents continue to feed the young birds for several weeks after they get out of the nest and take to the nearby bushes.



The adult Indigo Buntings do not rest on their laurels when the young become full flying but usually get busy immediately on a second brood, and by the time that the second cycle of hatching and rearing is over it is time for the preparation for the fall migration.

The summer diet of insects is largely forgotten and the birds turn again to seeds of all kinds which will be the main food supply until the next breeding season rolls around.

The wintering grounds for these birds is way down in Central America where they fatten themselves on the abundant seeds until the spring migratory urge again sends them northward across the Gulf to our shores.

These beautiful little birds are an interesting and beneficial part of the abundant wildlife which is the legacy of Louisiana residents.

RETURN REQUESTED
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

FRESH WATER COMMERCIAL FISHING IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE OVERALL ECONOMY OF LOUISIANA'S RURAL AREAS

A Good Catch

These commercial fishermen looking over a fine morning's catch of fresh water commercial fish realize that proper management of the State's commercial fresh water resources is important to their livelihood. In some areas of the State, persons are almost totally dependent upon good catches such as the one pictured, to provide them and their families with the necessities of life.